

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/EP: WSCLARKE:GFH
APPROVED BY ARA - AMBASSADOR HEWSON RYAN
D/LOS - JNMOORE
OES/OFA - RRIDGWAY
L/OES - DCOLSON
ARA/PLC - AWILLIAMS (INFO)
S/S-O: PJOHNSON

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O P 110059Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243263

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, EC, US

SUBJECT: EASTERN PACIFIC FISHERIES INITIATIVE:
SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS TO AVOID SEIZURES DURING COMING
TUNA SEASON

REF: QUITO 7523; STATE 238573

1. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES THE EMBASSY'S PROMPT REPLY
TO SUGGESTIONS ON POSSIBLE WAYS TO AVOID SEIZURES OF U.S.
TUNA CLIPPERS DURING THE COMING FISHING SEASON. .HE
FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO REQUESTS MADE IN
SECTION 10A-B OF QUITO 7523.

2. ITEM A-1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED
THE POSSIBILITY OF ASKING THE INDUSTRY TO AVOID ECUADOREAN-
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CLAIMED WATERS. HOWEVER, THE U.S. JURIDICAL POSITION,

OUR LOS NEGOTIATINGPOSTURE AND DOMESTIC U.S. POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS PRECLUDE ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOE ON THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME. IF THE GOE BRINGS UP THE ISSUE OF HOUSE PASSAGE OF H.R. 200, EMBASSY SHOULD STATE THAT VOTE DOES NOT CHANGE .USG POSIT"ON AND THAT ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO OPPOSE UNILATERAL 200-MILE LEGISLATION .

3. (B-1). WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO TELL THE ECUADOREANS ABOUT OUR FUTURE APPROACHES TO THE TUNA INDUSTRY AT THIS TIME. YOU MAY WISH TO TELL THE GOE THAT THE USG WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE INDUSTRY DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IN ORDER TO DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF FISHING PROBLEMS IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC, AND THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TRANSMIT TO THEM ANY CHANGES IN GOE REGULATIONS WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE AT THAT TIME.

4. (B-3). THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT DECIDED PRECISELY HOW ITS POSITION ON LICENSES WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE INDUSTRY. WE ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING A COMMUNICATION AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL TO THE TUNABOAT AND CANNERS ASSOCIATIONS, TO UNION LEADERS AND KEY CONGRESSIONAL FIGURES DURING THE NEXT WEEKS, PROBABLY BEFORE THE NEW YORK TALKS.

5. (A-3). INSTEAD OF GOING FORWARD WITH THE SPECIFICS OF THE ADVISORY WARNING PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN STATE 238573, WE SUGGEST YOU INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF THE ADVISORY/WARNING PROCEDURE AS YOUR OWN THINKING, SUGGESTING THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE ECUADOREANS TO DEVISE A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD BOTH INCREASE THE POSSIBILITY THAT FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS WOULD BUY LICENSES AND DECREASE THE POSSIBILITY THAT U.S. LEGAL SANCTIONS WOULD BE INVOKED. IF IN FINAL ANALYSIS EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT ANY MENTION OF THE FREE DEPARTURE OPTION WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, THE EMBASSY IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE ITS PRESENTATION WITHOUT THAT OPTION.

6. (A-2). THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT INFORMAL
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APPROACH TO GOE ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF FISHING DISPUTE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD BE CONDUCIVE TO FULL AND COMPLETE DISCUSSION OF ALL POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE GOE AND THE U.S. TUNA FLEET. NEVERTHELESS, AS NOTED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CABLE, LIFTING THE 40-MILE ZONE BAR IS NOT NECESSARILY ESSENTIAL TO OVERALL PRESENTATION AND MAY BE DROPPED FROM EMBASSY'S APPROACH.

7. (B-2). WE ARE UNABLE TO GIVE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF CHACON-RIZZO MISSION AT THIS TIME. THE TWO ECUADOREANS DO NOT APPEAR PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN USG SUPPORT. THEY HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO CALLS FROM THE DESK. THEY DID NOT CONTACT LA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FIELD OFFICE DESPITE FACT

THAT THEY HAD TELEPHONE NUMBER AND WERE TOLD BY DESK THAT LA OFFICE HAD IDEAS FOR OTHER APPOINTMENTS. WHILE IN SEATTLE, THEY DID NOT ATTEND A COCKTAIL PARTY TO WHICH THEY WERE INVITED AND HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO MESSAGES LEFT AT THEIR HOTEL BY FIELD OFFICE REPS.

8. EMBASSY SHOULD PROCEED WITH APPROACH AS OUTLINED IN QUITO 7523 AND REPORT REACTIONS SOONEST. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FISHING AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING REGULATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE243263
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LA/EP: WSCLARKE:GFH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750353-0909
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751060/aaaacbnp.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, EXDIS
Reference: 75 QUITO 7523, 75 STATE 238573
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EASTERN PACIFIC FISHERIES INITIATIVE: SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS TO AVOID SEIZURES DURING COMING
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, EFIS, EC, US
To: QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006